

guarantee success. We cannot avoid human dramas here, but we can reduce them to the minimum and help the person to find himself again. [First edition omits first four sentences of this paragraph] An actor, particularly a young one, must be a cultured, politically literate, socially active person and surpass his audience or at least be on a par with them, with the best of them, in terms of these qualities.

[First edition omits this paragraph] There are republics and cities where the theater is in a happier position. There are ones where it is a less happy position. In the RSFSR, for example, there are cities where people hardly go to the theater. But in Kuybyshev, Chelyabinsk, and Omsk the theaters play to full houses. This came about after genuine leader-artists went there.

Many problems can be solved only by cardinally altering the very structure of the theater, by creating a management system, a model which will make it possible to react with maximum speed and without bureaucratic impediments or departmental incompetence to the changes occurring in the social sphere. Some 634 theaters are located in 277 cities, but there are no theaters at all in 1,861 cities where almost half the country's population lives.

[First edition omits this paragraph] And where there are theaters? During the last 5-year plan more than 1 million performances were staged. They were seen by an audience of 500 million. But statistics provide no information about what they saw or the quality of the performances.

A particularly grave situation has come about in young persons' theaters, which are failing to keep up with the development of children. Young persons' theaters and children's theaters are an achievement of Soviet power, the result of a true revolution in the cultural sphere. But half-empty auditoriums in young persons' theaters are precursors of similarly empty auditoriums in adult theaters.

The new model of theatrical affairs in our country presupposes the theaters' maximum possible self-management--independence in shaping the repertoires, establishing ties with authors, determining the troupe's composition and dynamics, disposing of their finances, and so forth. A considerable proportion of these points has been included in the terms of the experiment that is about to begin. Here the Ministry of Culture, administrations locally [in first edition, this sentence begins: Here the ministries of culture, their administrations locally], and local soviets must sharply increase their attention to the material and technical aspect of theatrical matters. It has not just been neglected, it has been terribly neglected!

The experiment that is about to begin is already creating fears: Some leading organs locally are convinced that everything will stay as before. Together with cultural organs the union must categorically struggle for experiment's 100-percent implementation.

[First edition omits this paragraph] Jointly with competent representatives of the new union, the Ministry of Culture must implement the strategy of developing theatrical matters in the country. It is necessary to carry out the certification of all theaters as quickly as possible and to decide in which cities they can exist and in which cities it is more expedient to have an equipped building to which qualified collectives will come for 2-3 months a year. It is important to create a management structure in which any worthy theatrical initiatives--from the creation of a "one-man theater" to the formation of an entire mobile collective--will quickly be incorporated.

We are entrusted with the mission of giving back to the theater its significance as the highest spectator art. [First edition omits the remainder of this paragraph] Creative workers must also bear a significant part of the blame for the impasses and obstacles which have been created throughout the structure of theatrical matters, the speaker emphasized. For many people in the theater find it more convenient, more customary, and quieter to obey, listen, and carry out instructions than to take risks, be daring, and try things out.

The new union must be the careful successor to the theatrical societies, not break anything valuable, preserve everything living, continue all useful functions, and serve the development of multinational stage art. [First edition omits the remainder of this paragraph and the two following paragraphs] Each republic union retains full autonomy in the affairs of the theater in its region, its production enterprises, its houses of creativity, and its financial independence.

The new creative organization will prepare all-union theatrical measures. The speaker submitted a proposal to establish a regular all-union theater festival in Moscow.

The union will coordinate ties among the republics' theaters and will be able to realize the dream of many generations of theater workers of holding a world theater festival in Moscow once every 4 years.

A proposal was made to establish an all-union theater fund, which will give both material and legal assistance to actors, producers, and other union members.

The union can form [first edition reads: The union forms] an all-union bureau for propaganda of theatrical art. The union must have its own press organ. And it is worthwhile discussing the question of putting the union in charge of the magazine TEATR.

In conclusion the speaker said: Today we feel an amazing spiritual link with everything being done in our country on the initiative of the party, which has awakened people's initiative and frees their creative potential by its every act. Will we, who tread the boards every day, every evening, not help the party in this great cause of renewal? Full houses and fine performances which foster all that is best in the person--this is what our reply must be.

Then the debate on the report began. [In first edition, this sentence reads: Then the debate began]

The congress continues its work 6 December.

CULTURE

WRITER'S WORKS ON IRANIAN AZERBAIJAN PRAISED

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 12 September 1986 carries on page 6 a 1900-word article by Bakir Nabiyeu on the publication of a collection of literary works of Anvar Mammadkhanly. He notes that "in the works of Mammadkhanly, who served in Tabriz for a short time during the war, the Southern theme is reflected with a special love." The reviewer describes one of his short stories, "Red Blossoms," as a "work which has much in common with the difficult conditions of the working class in today's Southern Azerbaijan and Iran as a whole." His play "Under Fire" "shows in stirring dramatic scenes the cruel tragedy which befell the people in the South after the accursed Shah's regime crushed the liberation movement in 1946 and convinces one that the will of a people which had fought against social injustice and national tyranny has not been broken." The reviewer concludes by asking: "Does our people have any sorrow greater than the Southern problem?"

SEARCH ON FOR NOVEL ABOUT IRANIAN AZERI MARTYR

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 5 September 1986 carries on page 8 an 800-word request from a reader that a novel by the Iranian Azeri author Rahim Dagig be published in the AzSSR; the novel is currently unavailable. The request is from Surayya Allahverdi gyzy Babayeva, whose father was the protagonist of Dagig's 1953 biographical work "Allahverdi," who died in Tehran's Evin prison in 1947. Sabir Amirov, in response to the request, answers: "I believe that this issue of ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT will fall into the hands of Rahim Dagig and he, taking your request into consideration, will inform us of the fate of the novel 'Allahverdi.'"

TWO IRANIAN AZERI EMIGRE WRITERS FETED

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 19 September 1986 carries on page 7 two congratulatory articles, totaling 600 words, directed at the Iranian Azeri emigres Gulamrza Jamshidi and Sabir Amirov; both articles are signed by the Azerbaijan Writers Union ispolkom. Jamshidi is best known as a playwright: his play "Youth of Tabriz" "discusses the national democratic movement which took place in Southern Azerbaijan; he is now closely connected with the Sh. Gurbanov Azerbaijan

State Musical Comedy Theater. Amirov is best known as a literary critic specializing in Southern Azeri literature. He has also been the responsible secretary of the Southern Azeri Writers Association for the last 25 years."

POETESS YEARNs FOR 'UNDIVIDED AZERBAIJAN'

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 5 September 1986 carries on page 4 a poem by Hokuma Billuri entitled "My Fate" in which she yearns for the unification of Iranian Azerbaijan with Soviet Azerbaijan. One verse reads: "My fate, my fate / is a friend in love and a companion in sorrow. / It is a whole, undivided citizen / of an Azerbaijan divided in two."

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CSO: 1830/192

CULTURE

IBRAHIMOV PRAISED AS FOUNDER OF 'NATIONAL MARXIST ESTHETICS'

[Editorial Report] Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri on 15 October 1986 carries on page 3 a 1300-word article by Kamal Talybzade on the occasion of Mirza Ibrahimov's 75th birthday. "The contemporary reader is acquainted with M. Ibrahimov not only as a prominent Soviet classic, but also as a scholar who founded national Marxist esthetics and performed important services in its development, as a critic, a literary historian, a superb translator of classical literature, an active cultural worker, and a party and state servant who has left a deep impression on the life of the people through his political and public activities." At present, Ibrahimov is a deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries, and head of the Southern Azerbaijani Literature Department at the Nizami Institute of Literature.

IBRAHIMOV AS 'BRIDGE' BETWEEN SOVIET, IRANIAN AZERBAIJAN

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 17 October 1986 carries on page 7 a 1900-word congratulatory decree issued by the Presidium of the AzSSR Supreme Soviet and a biographical note by Bakir Nabiyeu on Mirza Ibrahimov timed to his 75th birthday. "The subject of the struggle against the Shahist regime and reaction for freedom and independence and the unity of the people of Southern Azerbaijan occupies one of the central places in Mirza Ibrahimov's publicistic work. From this standpoint, one can liken M. Ibrahimov to a living spiritual bridge between the progressive literary process in Southern Azerbaijan and Azerbaijani Soviet literature. Of our two artists to whom most of the poetry, short stories, articles, letters of request, and questions are addressed from the other side of the Araz, one is peoples poet S. Rustam and the other is peoples writer M. Ibrahimov."

AzSSR RAYON CONFERENCE EMPHASIZES ROLE OF RUSSIAN

[Editorial Report] Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri on 9 October 1986 carries on page 4 a 200-word announcement of a forthcoming conference to discuss "The 27th CPSU Congress and some questions in perfecting the instructional-educational process"; conference sponsors are the Astara Raykom, the republic Bilik Society, and the M. F. Akhundov Azerbaijan Russian Language and Literature Pedagogical Institute. The following papers are scheduled: Professor R. S. Mirzayev on "Duties of Russian language and literature

teachers from the standpoint of decrees of the 27th CPSU Congress"; Professor B. A. Ahmadov on "The human factor: problems in changing mentality"; G. M. Pashayev on "Azeri language and literature on the world level"; G. A. Rajabov on "The CPSU Program (new edition) on the role of Russian in enriching national cultures"; and Sh. Kh. Khanlarov on "The 27th CPSU Congress and the patriotic education of the young generation."

HISTORICAL MONUMENT PRESERVATION PROBLEMS NOTED

[Editorial Report] Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri on 31 October 1986 carries on page 3 a 700-word Azerinform report on the Fourth Congress of the Azerbaijan Society for the Preservation of Historical and Cultural Monuments. It was noted that "insufficient control is being exerted over restoration work as a result of which the former beauty of a rare medieval example of urban architecture--the Inner City--is being violated. The restoration and preservation of some other monuments located on the republic's territory are also unsatisfactory. Serious work must be done to maintain these monuments." Speakers also pointed out that "when agricultural and construction work is being done architectural monuments are often destroyed." They added that "the archeological map of the republic still has not been prepared."

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CULTURE

KAZAKH BOOK MUSEUM DOCUMENTS CULTURAL PAST AND PRESENT

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN in Kazakh on 14 October 1986 carries on page 4 an 1,100-word article by Q. Matyzhanov, published under the rubric "Museums," entitled "World of Books." The article describes the KaSSR Book Museum, established by the KaSSR State Committee for Printing, Printing Technology and the State Book Trade to document the cultural past and present of the republic through books.

Matyzhanov describes the collections of the museum in detail, with special attention to the museum's holdings of the poorly documented pre-revolutionary books of the Kazakhs. The museum, however, he makes clear, also displays the latest products of Kazakh presses as well, many in the context of special topic or displays of the products of individual Kazakh presses. The greatest problem of the museum is said to be securing examples of jealously hoarded early Kazakh books, often already in the hands of other museums or belonging to private collectors unwilling to part with them. The importance of the books for the cultural self-expression of the Kazakhs is repeatedly stressed.

CULTURAL EXAMPLE OF GEORGIA HELD UP TO KAZAKHS

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN in Kazakh on 24 October 1986 carries on page 4 a 1,900-word article by Doctor of Philological Sciences Rakhmanqul Berdibayev, published under the new rubric "The Results of Friendship and Fraternal Relations," entitled "Concern for Spiritual Treasures." The article, intended to be part of a new series stressing the joint achievement of the many Soviet nationalities, actually looks at the culture of Soviet Georgia with a great amount of envy. Berdibayev, for example, stresses many features that are accepted parts of Georgian life which he would no doubt like to see as part of the life of his own republic. These include the harmonious mix of old and new architecture in Georgian cities, the great and well-supported endeavor of Georgian researchers to study the Georgian past and modern Georgian culture, and the successful interaction not only of the many nationalities of Georgia but also of a national Russian and republic Georgian language.

KaSSR: 'MOTHER TONGUE' TEXT FULL OF LANGUAGE ERRORS

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata QAZAQ ADEBIYETI in Kazakh on 10 October 1986 carries on page 15 a 1,700-word review by Aweyz Beysebeyev of the third grade text "ana Tili" (Mother Tongue) by T. Abdirakhmanov and S. Rakhmetova. The review is published under the rubric "School Reform, an Honored Duty," entitled "The Coloring of the Mother Language." The review takes the text to task for both content and choice of materials.

The text, for example, even though a text of the Kazakh "Mother Tongue," is mostly comprised of translations of Russian materials. Not only are such materials less than appropriate in terms of Kazakh tradition and culture, but the Kazakh translations of them also contain numerous grammatical errors, misused and misspelled words and "Russianisms" (examples are given, but they are not labeled as such). Beysebeyev wants more correct usage in a "Mother Tongue" text and also selections written by the great Kazakh writers of the present, "not materials 20-30 years old."

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CSO: 1830/199

SOCIAL ISSUES

MORAL, ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF UNEARNED INCOMES CAMPAIGN NOTED

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Aug p 3

[Article by A. Kurkov, director of the Leningrad City Soviet Executive Committee's Chief Internal Affairs Administration, under the rubric, "The Citizen, Society and the Law": "The Unearned Ruble"]

[Text] Leningrad--An elk in the city and a seal in the Neva drew more interest in the local newspapers than the recent criminal trial in the Leningrad City Court of a group of employees of the Sevzapkurortstroy [Northwest Resort Construction] Trust. In accordance with a prior agreement, officials and persons in positions of financial responsibility in this and a number of other organizations drew up fictitious documents attesting to the installation of costly plumbing equipment and then looted it and sold it to members of the public. Fourteen persons were put behind bars for a long term.

Why didn't the trial draw attention? It was an ordinary, unsensational crime that, unfortunately, does not evoke any emotion in many people. The campaign against unearned income and social parasitism is now being widely reported. This is very proper. But here is what is disturbing: It is primarily various types of illegal trade in markets, private hauling by car owners and state vehicle drivers, moonlighting and private seasonal construction work, etc. that come under repeated critical fire.

There's no question but what such socially damaging manifestations must be eradicated. In order to do so, I think that optimal means need to be found of regulating citizens' individual labor activity so as to rule out the unpaid use of state vehicles, equipment, fuel, raw materials and other materials. But it's still easier to catch a driver operating on the side than it is to expose, say, a group of embezzlers who have been eating away at the economy for years by embezzling public funds and padding report figures. It's also easier to charge a person behind a market counter with unearned income, even though he's not someone who buys up goods for resale. There's no use hiding the fact that the ease with which this can be done frequently tempts employees of the law-enforcement agencies, creating the appearance of activeness and aggressiveness in combating unearned income, and entices them with impressive statistics on a large number of cases. This is an undesirable tendency.

The reasons for social parasitism are numerous. I shall cite only what, in my view, is one of the main ones. As paradoxical as it may seem, it consists in indifference. In conditions of the atmosphere of untroubled optimism, bombast and lax standards that reigned for years, we gradually got used to and resigned ourselves to deviations from the norms of morality. At some enterprises, for example, the periodic placing of employees under guard for bribe-taking, theft and abuse of office became practically the backdrop of production activity.

Two years ago 11 employees of Glavlenplodovoshchprom [Leningrad Gorispolkom's Chief Administration for the Fruit and Vegetable Industry] went to trial for large-scale embezzlement. A year later, 14 more did. And at the present time large-scale thieves and crooked operators have been uncovered at a number of stores and depots. An investigation is in progress. Incidentally, Glavlenplodovoshchprom is not the only system in which the law-enforcement agencies expose crooks and bribe-takers year after year. They are traditionally uncovered in trade, consumer services, certain construction, supply and marketing organizations, and motor-transport enterprises. In addition to outright embezzlement, such people do not shun the acceptance of bribes from their fellow workers or members of the public. The purchase of tickets for a train, airplane or the theater, of medicine that is in short supply, or of a hotel room is accompanied by "gratitude" in the form of money. Wheeler-dealers in funeral bureaus and cemeteries who have lost the last remnants of conscience make money on people's grief.

The dividing up of the take also follows its own rules: the sales clerk "feeds" the section or department chief, who in turn "feeds" the store director. A taxi driver makes deductions for the dispatcher, the repair-zone mechanic and the director of the column. And of course, the one who stands at the beginning of the chain doesn't end up a loser, either.

Various sorts of rogues cleverly take advantage of the consumerist mentality. This is the second year now that we have been investigating a criminal case involving a criminal who has not yet been determined. Presenting himself as an official of various institutions, he offered assistance in buying a car--out of turn, of course. The scoundrel made money off of people's desire to satisfy their "I want" out of turn, pocketing 116,000 rubles.

Or take the book shortage. Shady operators aren't napping here, either. A certain V. Zarchevskiy was recently sentenced to eight years for speculating in books. More than 110,000 rubles in money and valuables was confiscated from him.

While condemning swindling and speculation, people often attribute their roots merely to the infamous shortage. If there isn't any shortage of goods, they say, the crook will disappear of his own accord. But let's take a look at the problem from a moral viewpoint. After all, it's not naive simpletons who take advantage of the services of the "procurers." Moved by a desire to obtain a needed item, especially one that other people do not have, they quite consciously enter into contacts with people they know to be dishonest. They

themselves give such people earned rubles, helping turn them into their opposite--unearned rubles, a source of unearned enrichment.

The militia frequently receives complaints from citizens who have been deceived by a scoundrel or fleeced by a speculator. Characteristically, the complaints arise only when someone has been deceived. For example, in a secluded spot someone has turned over something that was not at all what the buyer counted on. In some cases there are no complaints. Just as there is evidently no awareness of involvement in the crime that has been committed.

Three years ago V. Omelkov, a driver in the Krasnoye Znamya Association, sold stolen stockings, socks and yarn for half price to regular customers--employees of a kindergarten belonging to the Association imeni Kozitskiy. Neither the director, nor the physician, nor the kindergarten teachers and attendants--in short, no one out of 40 staff employees--made any attempt to stop the thief. And what's worse, in some places types like Omelkov are valued and given preferential treatment. They are recognized on sight; their telephone numbers are kept handy; they are given advance orders; and they are recommended to friends and acquaintances.

Notions of morality and ethics prove to have been turned inside out. We all condemn a speculator or bribe-taker. In our eyes, he is a criminal. But when it comes to those who, to all intents and purposes, have aided the criminal and encouraged him in his unlawful acts, public opinion frequently becomes apathetic, or even defends supposed victims.

I think I won't be mistaken if I say that embezzlement, bribes, extortion, the buying up of stolen goods and speculation are possible only on a soil that has been fertilized by public indifference and consumerist mentality. Their social danger consists both in their violation of the law and in the corrupting influence they have on people with whom they come in contact, especially young people. A passion for acquisition is awakened in young people, and a belief in the omnipotence of money takes root in them. Isn't this why higher school graduates are more and more frequently taking jobs as appraisers in commission stores or with the state insurance administration, as bartenders, procurement agents for recycled materials, and gas pump operators? It is by no means the romance of the workday routine that draws them to such jobs, as materials from criminal cases confirm.

While according great importance to the "intensification of conscience," if one may put it that way, it is no less important to use economic and other levers to regulate activities in spheres connected with consumer services. It is important to diminish, if not totally eliminate, the effect there of factors that prompt people to commit illegal acts. It is necessary to give people an incentive to be honest. Then it will become possible to devote the law-enforcement agencies' principal efforts to combating the most dangerous forms of extracting unearned income--embezzlement, crimes in office and economic crimes.

The stricter and more principled intradepartmental oversight becomes, the more significant the results in this area will be. So far that oversight works poorly. For seven years V. Tarasov and M. Antonov, auditors with the

Leningrad Oblast Trade Unions' Council, "failed to notice" intrigues in the Vodnik Volunteer Sports Society. For 15,000 rubles in bribes, they covered up 460,000 rubles of embezzlement. This is no isolated case. In recent years criminal charges have been brought against 60 employees of the auditing staff of various departments in Leningrad and Leningrad Oblast for similar improper deeds.

The effectiveness of oversight leaves something to be desired. This leads to sad consequences. Despite a pro forma toughening of measures, the number of so-called "pilferers" is not being reduced. At some enterprises in the food industry, one employee in three is caught pilfering products. Efforts against parasites and drunkards are relatively ineffective. For example, an idler living on income that is plainly unearned has a right to live in clover for three months before receiving an official warning from the militia. He is given a month to find a job. Some of them get a job for several days and then quit. Then the entire procedure has to be begun anew. Legal proceedings are cumbersome and sluggish. Parasites smirk and go on living parasitically for months, even years, before they can be brought to account.

Or take petty speculation. Administrative penalties are provided for it. This measure sobers up many of those who have embarked for the first time on the slippery path. But it has no effect whatsoever on inveterate speculators. The militia arrested A. Vasilyev, M. Dyokov and A. Avdeyev 25 to 30 times each. In each of their arrests they got off with an insignificant fine and immediately set off to speculate again. It would seem to be time to put them on trial, but we have no right to do this! The law now has even become more lenient on them, whereas 10 years ago there were differentiated penalties in cases of repeated arrests. It seems that it would also be good idea to revise the provision of law that pertains to establishing the fact of buying up goods or products for resale at higher prices. Even when he has caught a speculator at the time of making a deal, a militia officer cannot fine him--he has to initiate a lengthy correspondence with the rayon administrative commission and wait a long time for results. And the law-breaker isn't napping. He often completely avoids even symbolic punishment.

I think that--consulting, without fail, with specialist practitioners--it is necessary to improve the methods of combating unearned income in the interest of strengthening the main principle of social justice: every ruble in our society should be honestly earned through work.

A good deal is being done in this direction and results are already appa. at. In the first seven months of this year substantially more cases of bribery have been uncovered and halted than were last year. The number of speculators against whom criminal charges have been brought has risen. The campaign against thieves of socialist property has intensified, and cases of negligence, abuse of office, the defrauding of customers and engagement in forbidden commercial activity are being more actively uncovered.

Of course, we still do not always act purposefully and promptly, and coordination of the work of various services is rather weak. As experience shows, while eliminating their own shortcomings, militia officers need to rely even more on labor collectives, strengthen cooperation with other law-

enforcement and oversight agencies, more boldly renounce "professional isolation," invariably observe the principle of openness, and inform people about the acts of embezzlement and malfeasance for selfish purposes that are uncovered.

The lovers of easy money are presently consoling themselves with the hope that the measures that have been taken will prove to be just another one-shot campaign. Our civic and party duty is to deprive them of this illusion. Great and complex work has been begun. It requires a particular concentration of effort and a comprehensive approach to solving the problems, which are by no means simple, of eliminating shortcomings in the work of law-enforcement agencies, including the militia, as well as elsewhere. There are cases in which even militia officers prove not to be above reproach. We are especially strict in putting a stop to their misdeeds. The irreproachable performance of their official duties with support from the law and the public at large, openness and consistency can lead to the desired results.

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CSO: 1830/734

SOCIAL ISSUES

POLICE SERGEANT DESCRIBES SPECULATION AROUND BERIOZKAS

Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug p 2

[Letter from Aleskandr Ternavskiy, Jr Sgt in the 47th Militia Division, Moscow, under the rubric, "Topic for Reflection": "What's Growing Under the 'Beriozka'?"]

[Text] The second shift begins at 8:00. Today my post is the Beriozka Store at 39 Pyatnitskaya Street. At 8:05 Zhora, a tall, dark, charming man, walks past me; he greets me, smiles and walks on into the store. Three minutes later, after greeting all the sales clerks, he comes out and takes up a post nearby.

"Have you come to work," I ask.

"Yes," says Zhora, squinting from the sun.

He isn't deceiving me. He really has come to work. An affluent-looking customer comes out of the store and heads for the subway. Zhora, who has been closely studying a crack in the sidewalk, perks up and takes off after him. He has gone off to "count salmon" or, in other words, "quarry coupons." In normal language that means persuading the owner of Vneshposyltorg coupons [Vneshposyltorg is a foreign trade association responsible for the export of Soviet industrial and food products to Soviet citizens and institutions abroad] to sell them, say, for twice their face value and then tricking him by paying him half that amount. In legal language that means mutual speculation for the purpose of gain as defined in Art. 154 of the RSFSR Criminal Code.

There's no use following him: You won't catch him red-handed, anyway. Those "quarriers" know each of us inside out. I'll have to wait. In 20 minutes Zhora appears feeling quite confident. His eyes look triumphant behind his dark glasses, although he tries to look indifferent. His "shoveler" (a small bag for money and documents) has clearly gotten heavier, and Zhora is not afraid that the deceived citizen will return or report him to the militia. Zhora is intelligent. He's an engineer, a graduate student with a residence permit for Alma-Ata, but he lives in Moscow and is presently on a "merit" academic leave. And he has very clever hands--the hands of a magician.

You ask just where I, a police officer, am looking.

I'm watching the speculator Alik drive up to the store in a Volga. He is also a "quarrier," and he also greets me and the sales clerks and then gets down to work. And I continue to look: Her comes the elegant Misha Shmelkin, a worker at Supermarket No. 50. He's with Lena. Misha and Lena don't yet have a business the size of Zhora and Alik, and they are riding in a taxi. Lena sells hard-to-find shoes for coupons: She has an open, innocent look, is charming and delicate--wouldn't you buy them from a person like that?

The day starts to get in full swing, and there are more and more people in the store. And there are more and more of my acquaintances there, too.

"Skipper" (Mikhail Zinovyevich Klivanskiy, born 1960) drives up in a taxi. "Empties" (Vladimir Kirillovich Alekseyuk) flashes by in a red Zhiguli. Sitting beside him is "Light" (Tatyana Vladimirovna Kalashnikova, b. 1965, employed as a nursemaid). The "Warrant Officer" (Aleksandr Yevgenyevich Rytov, of the taxi and motor-vehicle fleet) gets out of a taxi. Yes, Sasha once was a warrant officer.

The clock hands relentlessly move forward. Why, here are Tengis and the "Cossack" already. A watchman, a dispatcher, a stevedore, a fitter, an instructor at the Harvest Volunteer Sports Society, a quality controller, a lifeguard, a disabled veteran in the second group, an engineer, the director of a photography studio--my notebook is already bulging with their telephone numbers, addresses, nicknames, vehicle license numbers, etc.

Their work day is tense and nerve-racking. But it's by no means my presence that makes it nerve-racking. They all give me a friendly smile, start up conversations, ask about one another (Has "Skipper" been here yet? Has Tengis driven by?), and take an interest in my problems and health. They may offer a certain sum or any variety of services. It's not to their advantage for them to quarrel with me. Because I can put a stop to their business. But not forever. Only for three hours: I can take them down to the division headquarters to have their papers checked. Yet three hours cost a business man a lot, and for this reason they try not to leave their passports home.

For us with militia beats, the route on which the Beriozka is located is the most difficult and unpleasant--disgusting, I would say. I've worked for five years with agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Days, months and years go by. Time passes, and our life is changing. The party congress has met, and new decrees and laws are being promulgated.

Yet they are still here. They are still doing fine. They exchange a Moskvich for a Zhiguli, a Zhiguli for a Volga, a one-room apartment for a two-room, a two-room for a three-room. They dress in the finest clothes, dine in restaurants and give "picnics." And they always smile at me.

Why? Sometimes you lose your patience and take one of them down to headquarters after a "fat" deal--take him against the law!--and he good-naturedly admonishes you: "Why bother, commander? You'll let me go, anyway."

Yes, we let him go. And what did we make "stick"? He "found" the coupons or received them as a "gift." His documents were in order; he's not a parasite: somewhere or other he's nominally employed as a watchman or a dispatcher, and no one has filed any complaint against him. It would be possible, in general, to catch him red-handed at the time he was making a deal, but not for me, but for officers of the Department for Combatting the Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation, so he wouldn't recognize who they were. But in order to do that, it would be necessary to carry out a whole operation, and to do so for each one of the speculators separately. And then what? There's no speculation: he bought, say, a thousand coupons for a thousand rubles. The "seller" will never admit that he was deceived.

Of course, I understand that there are not all that many Beriozka Stores and that this would seem to be a local problem: speculators are robbing speculators, and no one's dipping into the state's pocket. But look what goes on in these stores! By my observations these stores' main customers have never been abroad and undoubtedly never will be, but they buy up everything available.

Why?

Shouldn't we return to the system that people say used to exist: personal coupon books issued in the names of the users? Maybe specialists will find my question naive, but I think it's necessary to explain to everyone simply and understandably why a Soviet oil worker who has come back, say, from Western Europe buys special goods with special money at special stores, while an oil driller from Tyumen, say, who has been extracting oil for that same Europe has no such opportunity. Since the Beriozka Stores exist, it's necessary that we who walk past them also know why they exist. If they exist for the general benefit of the state, does that mean for us, too? There's no need to think we won't understand. Our people are educated and will figure things out. Are these Beriozkas, which corrupt public attitudes and give rise to speculators, really so necessary? It's said that because of them our Soviet people do not waste hard currency abroad but turn it over to the state in order to receive coupons. Yet the state has to pay hard currency for Beriozka goods. Granted, this probably works out advantageously. But we ought to count up the profits generated behind the blind-shrouded, mirror-like store windows and the losses that are caused in front of them.

From the Beriozkas there are strong threads running to the commission stores, the second-hand markets and the flea markets.

A decree on unearned income was just recently adopted. My notebook contains 24 names and addresses--and that's hardly all! After all, I have only one post. And how many such posts are there throughout the country as a whole? I have gone both to my superiors, who are first-rate professionals, and to the Department for Combatting the Embezzlement of Socialist Property and

Speculation--they say that we can't yet do anything significant with these crooks.

Just who can I, a police officer and servant of law and order, ask: Why is that the way it is, and how long will it be that way?

FROM THE EDITORS: You'll agree that the young militia beat officer A. Ternavskiy asks difficult, pressing questions. How are we to go about looking for the answers to them? Together with our readers and people in appropriate positions of authority. The editors hope to hear their views.

But first let's agree on the topic of conversation. Like the letter's author, we have no doubt that the money earned by Soviet specialists abroad has been received by them for honest work that deserves every respect. The question is why this money sometimes becomes the object of speculative deals. We also know that the percentage of trade done in the system of Beriozka stores is miniscule in terms of the country's total trade. As we see it, that means that the barrier to the speculator at the Beriozka's doors should be all that more reliable. Why isn't this the case?

This is what we would like to discuss. These are the sort of questions one is led to ask by the observations contained in the letter of point-duty officer A. Ternavskiy.

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CSO: 1830/ 734

SOCIAL ISSUES

INCREASED DRUG TRAFFICKING IN AKTYUBINSK OBLAST

PM171615 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 November 1986 Morning Edition carries on page 3 under the rubric "A Duty Tour at Readers' Request" and the headline "Poison" a 2,000-word report by special correspondent L. Ochakovskaya and senior legal adviser S. Muratova, datelined Aktyubinsk Oblast, Kazakh SSR. The authors, sent to Aktyubinsk Oblast by A.M. Rekunkov, USSR prosecutor general, in response to a letter published in IZVESTIYA on 30 September 1986, relate under the heading "What Have You Done, Son..." the story of four young drug addicts and an exemplary worker who turned out to be the pusher, all arrested in February 1986.

The article contains the information that "during the first 9 months of the current year there have been 50 percent more convictions for drug manufacture and trafficking in Aktyubinsk than in the whole of last year." Writing about attention paid to this problem at schools, vocational colleges, rayispolkom commissions, and Komsomol raykoms, the authors note that there is "plenty of paperwork but no action, and also no understanding of the terrible implications of this problem." The authors cite Oblast Internal Affairs Administration statistics to the effect that "50 percent of thefts of private property in Aktyubinsk Oblast are carried out with the aim of acquiring means for the purchase of drugs and alcohol."

The article is followed by an editorial note stating: "The USSR prosecutor general has dispatched letters to the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee and Aktyubinsk Party Obkom, briefing them on the shortcomings revealed in the course of the investigation in the work of republic law enforcement and state organs, labor collectives, and public organizations in preventing drug addiction. He censured the Kazakh SSR and Aktyubinsk Oblast prosecutors for unsatisfactory supervision of the implementation of legislation aimed at combating drug addiction, especially among juveniles and young people. They are instructed to adopt additional measures to step up supervision by the Prosecutor's Office, with special emphasis on the implementation of laws to ensure the timely exposure of persons guilty of nonmedical use of drugs and psychotropic preparations, and their treatment and reeducation."

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CSO: 1830/197

SOCIAL ISSUES

MOSCOW NEWS INTERVIEWS SCIENTIST STUDYING SUICIDE

PM111151 [Editorial Report] Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 48, 30 November 1986 carries on page 13 under the rubric "Family Problems" and the headline "'No One Is To Blame for My Death'" a 1,900-word Viktor Loshak interview with Professor Anya Ambrumova, head of the All-Union Center for Scientific Methods in the Study of Suicide. She starts by saying that "this acute problem [suicide] should not be smoothed over and covered up as has been frequently done in the press." While pointing out that "unemployment, loss of property, and ruin at the stock exchange" are not causes of suicide in the Soviet Union, as they are in the West, nevertheless "the USSR of course also has lonely old people, mothers whose children die, unrequited love, broken families, and incurable diseases." The interviewee says that life in big cities like Moscow "has all the causes for stress and psychological crises," and she goes on to describe the "confidence telephone" which people contemplating suicide can use in Moscow, Riga, Leningrad, Dnepropetrovsk, Ufa, and soon also in Rostov and Murmansk. However, she says, the "confidence telephone" is not enough: "A whole network of social and psychological aid is required. Our center has done a great deal and is carrying on its efforts: sociopsychological rooms have appeared in outpatient clinics, in colleges, and at some enterprises. We have set up a number of rooms in cities specially to study misbehavior among teenagers and those suffering from alcoholism and drug addiction. We have our own crisis hospital, which is more like a sanatorium; people admitted there must divert attention, remove psychological stress, and gain vital stability."

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CSO: 1812/28

SOCIAL ISSUES

ARSONIST GIVEN 8-YEAR SENTENCE

[Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 4 December 1986 carries on page 6 a 200-word report by M. Pankov on the sentencing of V. Pyankov of Amursk Oblast for attempted murder and willful destruction of property. Blaming his mother-in-law rather than his own alcoholism for the fact that his wife had left him several times, Pyankov went to his mother-in-law's home one night, locked the doors from the outside, and set fire to the house. He then went home to sleep. The people in the house, including his wife, all escaped by jumping out of a broken window. The court sentenced Pyankov to 8 years' deprivation of freedom and prescribed compulsory treatment for alcoholism.

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CSO: 1830/202

SOCIAL ISSUES

KASSR: PARTY MEMBERS COMPLAIN ABOUT 'CRANK' CALLS

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN in Kazakh on 14 October 1986 carries on page 4 a 1,500-word article by M. Tazhimuratov, published under the rubric "The Subject of Discussion--Civic Duty," entitled "Crank Telephone Calls." The article complains about the growing number of the crank calls in Alma-Ata (55 complaints during the first half of 1986 alone) and condemns those who feel that they have a right to abuse their telephones and others. Types of crank calls discussed include neighbors harassing neighbors with late-night abusive calls, false reports of accidents, and false calls to party members and other persons in authority.

Tazhimuratov reminds the public that such calls are in fact illegal, whatever their purpose. He also calls for a crackdown on offenders.

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CSO: 1830/198

SOCIAL ISSUES

WOMEN'S COUNCILS URGED TO BE MORE ACTIVE

[Editorial Report] Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri on 2 September 1986 carries on page 1 a 1000-word lead editorial on the importance of the work of women's councils. "As noted at the 31st Azerbaijan CP Congress, certain aspects of work with women does not conform to present demands, especially in rural areas. The work of women's councils in Gadabay, Davachi, Kalbajar, Gubadly, Lerik, Yardymly, and Masally Rayons is unsatisfactory. Letters of complaint sent by women in these rayons to various republic administrations and organizations prove this. Some women's councils are not participating boldly in the resolution of serious problems which have arisen and are making no efforts to establish the needed working and living conditions for women."

SOCIAL INSTITUTION SHORTCOMINGS CAUSE DROP IN PRODUCTIVITY

[Editorial Report] Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri on 4 September 1986 carries on page 1 a 1000-word lead editorial on the impact of shortcomings in social institutions on labor productivity. "Shortcomings in the work of transportation, health and trade institutions are arousing justifiable dissatisfaction. It is only natural for such a situation to influence the people's productivity and state of mind." A number of institutions subordinate to the AzSSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry are cited for not only failing to meet the 7-month quota, but also "not showing the necessary concern for the needs of their workers." The editorial also points out that problems in various facets of housing are causing losses of worktime.

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CSO: 1830/193

REGIONAL ISSUES

KaSSR: HOUSING CONSTRUCTION FALLING SHORT

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN in Kazakh on 15 October 1986 carries on page 1 a 1,000-word boldface editorial entitled "Let Us Speed Up Housing Construction." The editorial reminds housing constructors of the goal of meeting the housing needs of Soviet citizens by the year 2000 and castigates them for many deficiencies which have resulted in only 2.47 million square meters of housing completed during the first 6 months of the current year, a figure well below plan goals (completion of some 6.3 million square meters per year are planned for each year of the current 5-year plan). The editorial suggests that a large part of the shortfall may be due to failure by construction units to introduce the latest technology, to inadequate mechanization, and to a failure to seek creative, innovative solutions to housing problems--above all, to overcome subassembly supply bottlenecks. It also suggests, however, that existing housing construction capacity is by no means being fully exploited and that much more could be achieved in this area, all other things being equal.

KaSSR: HOUSING ALLOTMENT IRREGULARITIES

[Editorial Report] Alma-Ata SOTSIALISTIK QAZAQSTAN in Kazakh on 17 September 1986 carries on page 4 a 1,400-word article by M. Omarbekov, member of the USSR Journalists Union, entitled "Airy Promises for Seven Years." The article condemns what are apparently irregularities in assigning scarce housing in Qarqaraly City (Karaganda Oblast). Part of the problem, however, Omarbekov makes clear, is an almost complete failure to provide any new housing, with only 4,000 square meters completed since 1979-80 instead of the planned 20,000 square meters per year.

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CSO: 1830/200

REGIONAL ISSUES

ENGINEERING STUDY OF CASPIAN SHORELINE STALLED

[Editorial Report] Baku ADABIYYAT VA INJASANAT in Azeri on 12 September 1986 carries on pages 3 and 4 a 2400-word article by Agha Khalilov, director of the AzSSR Academy of Sciences Department for Caspian Sea Problems, on problems connected with the study of changing Caspian Sea water levels and the erosion of the Caspian shoreline. Noting the complexity of these problems, he points out that a state commission to study ways and means of controlling the situation was formed 2 years ago under the AzSSR Council of Ministers and that "having studied the republic's shoreline, the commission submitted a proposal for the establishment of a special Scientific-Production Organization for the Preservation of the Caspian Shore patterned after the experience of the Georgian SSR and Bulgaria under the AzSSR Council of Ministers. But despite the fact that more than a year and a half has passed, the establishment of these organizations has been stalled." In addition, there is no mention of it in the new 5-Year Plan because "implementing engineering measures to prevent the erosion of the Caspian shoreline has been forgotten."

FOREIGN STUDENTS AT AzSSR POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE HIGHLIGHTED

[Editorial Report] Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri on 7 September 1986 carries on page 2 a 100-word note on foreign students at the Ch. Ildyrym Azerbaijan Polytechnic Institute. "For the first time Bulgarian students are to be seen in the large international student collective." They are studying in the Faculty of Automation and Computer Technology and specializing in semiconductors and dielectrics. Students from Laos, Lebanon, and Syria are specializing in automotive transport and industrial electronics. Kampuchians are studying computer technology."

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CSO: 1830/194

REGIONAL ISSUES

AzSSR: CONSERVATION OF ELECTRICITY STRESSED

[Editorial Report] Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri on 1 October 1986 carries on page 1 a 1000-word lead editorial on the need for the conservation of energy. "As noted at the July [1986] plenum of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee, although energy has been strongly developed in the republic, the economy's energy supply is still inadequate. Thus, along with the reconstruction of all branches of the energy industry, the rapid elimination of serious shortcomings in energy consumption is needed." These demands are not only made on industry, but also on the population as a whole: "The population must give serious thought to saving energy. There are approximately one million families in the republic. If every family turned off a 100-watt bulb in the home, energy amounting to that produced by the two veterans of Baku energy--the Red Star Thermoelectric Center and the L. Krasin GRES--would be saved."

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